

# **Men's Health & Prostate Cancer**

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# **National Men's Health Week**

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- June 11-17, 2007  
(Father's day was on June 17<sup>th</sup>)
- Theme – Increase awareness of men's health issues and promote early detection and health prevention

# Overview

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- Key facts of Men's Health
- Prostate Cancer
- Trends in Incidence and Mortality
- Key issues of Screening and Early Treatment
- Premature deaths due to Prostate cancer

## **Key facts of Men's Health**

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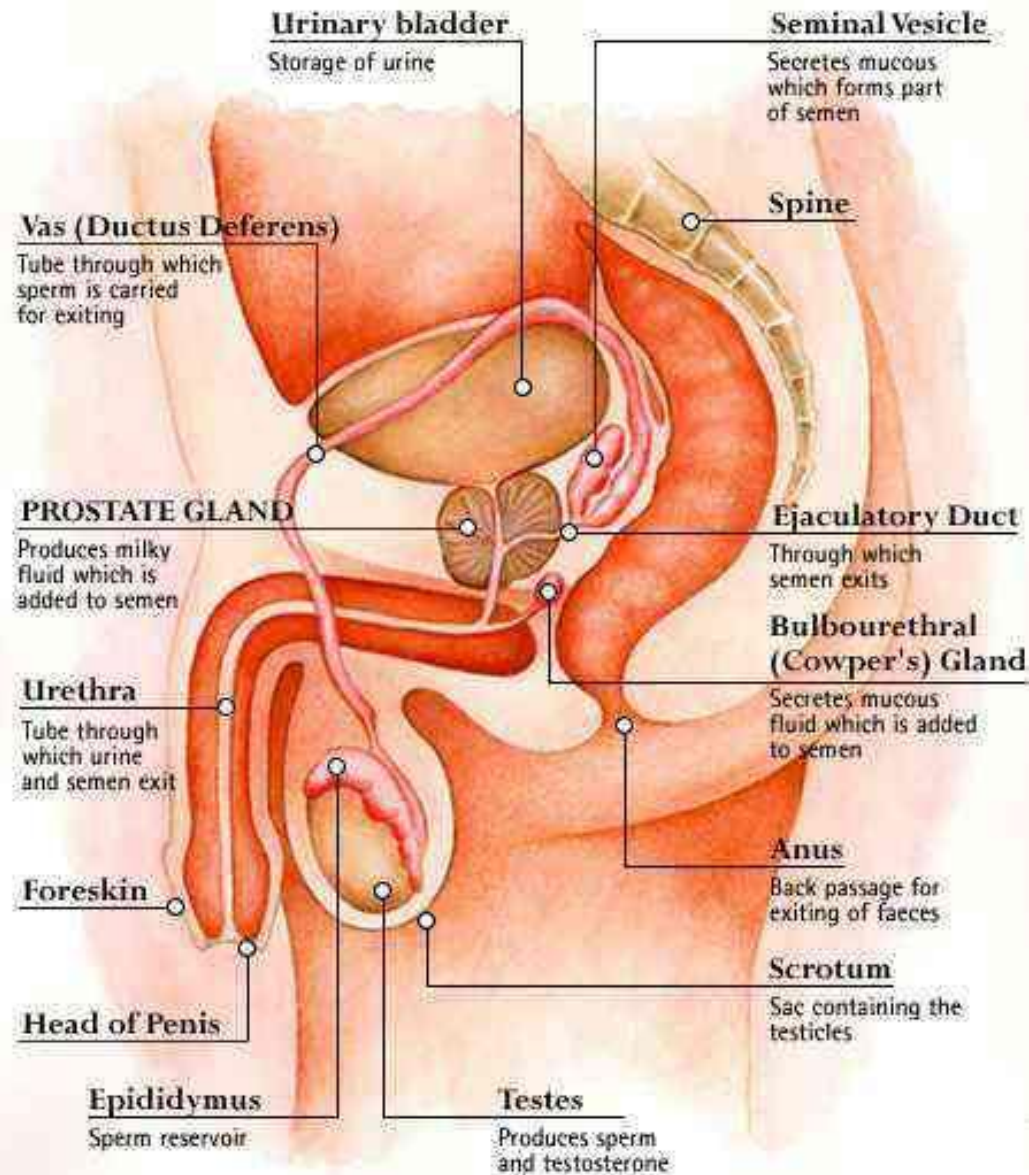
- Life expectancy for men are lower than women
- Men tend to smoke more than women
- Men tend to drink more than women
- Men don't seek medical help as often as women
- Some men define themselves by their work, which can add to stress

## **Key facts of Men's Health**

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- Men are four times more likely to die of suicide than women
- Nearly two-thirds of injured or ill-workers were men
- There are also health conditions that affect only men...

# The Prostate Gland

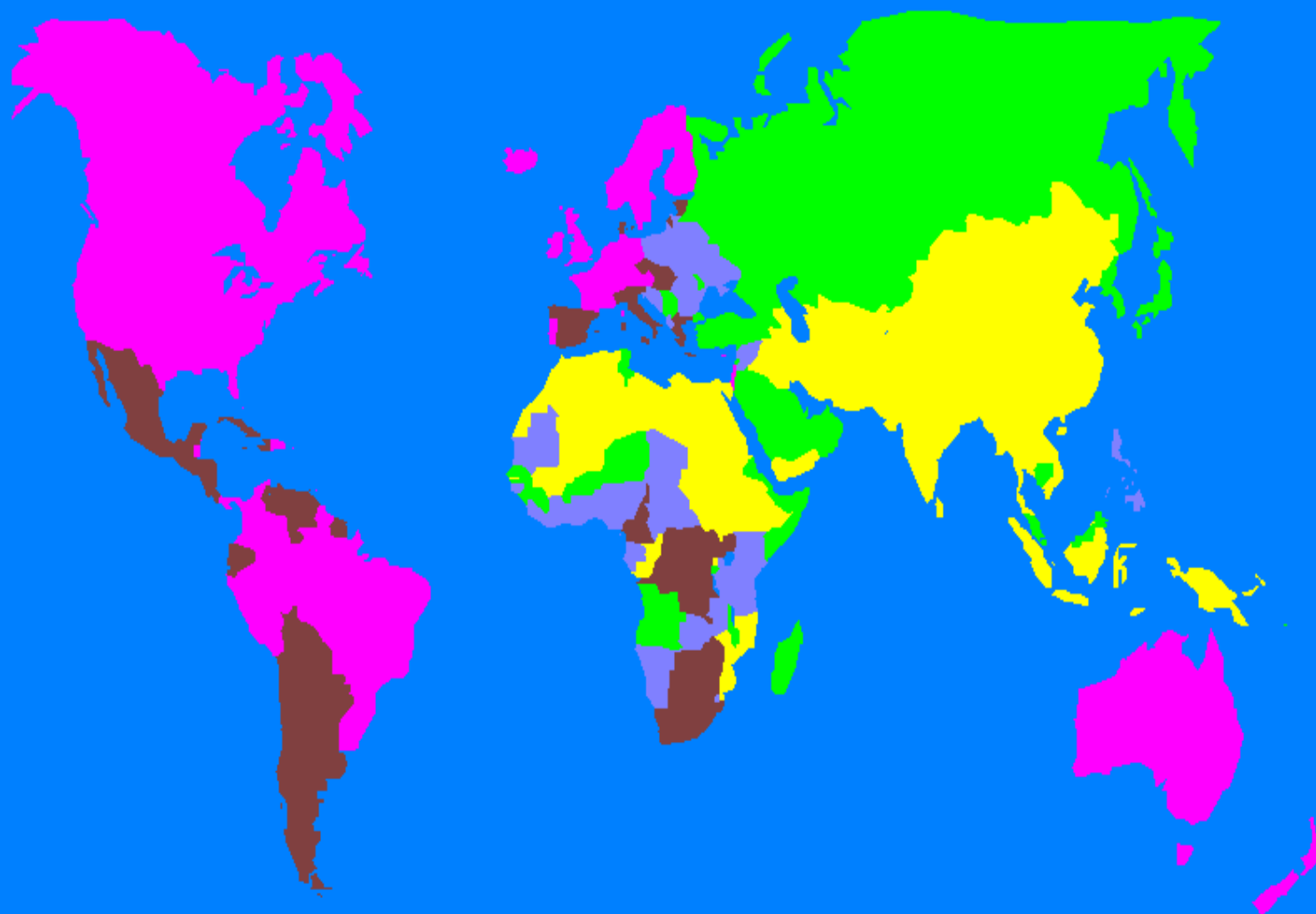


# Risk Factors

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- Male
- Age
- Race
  - Higher rate in African-American, lower in Asian
- Family history (1<sup>st</sup> degree relatives)
- Diet?

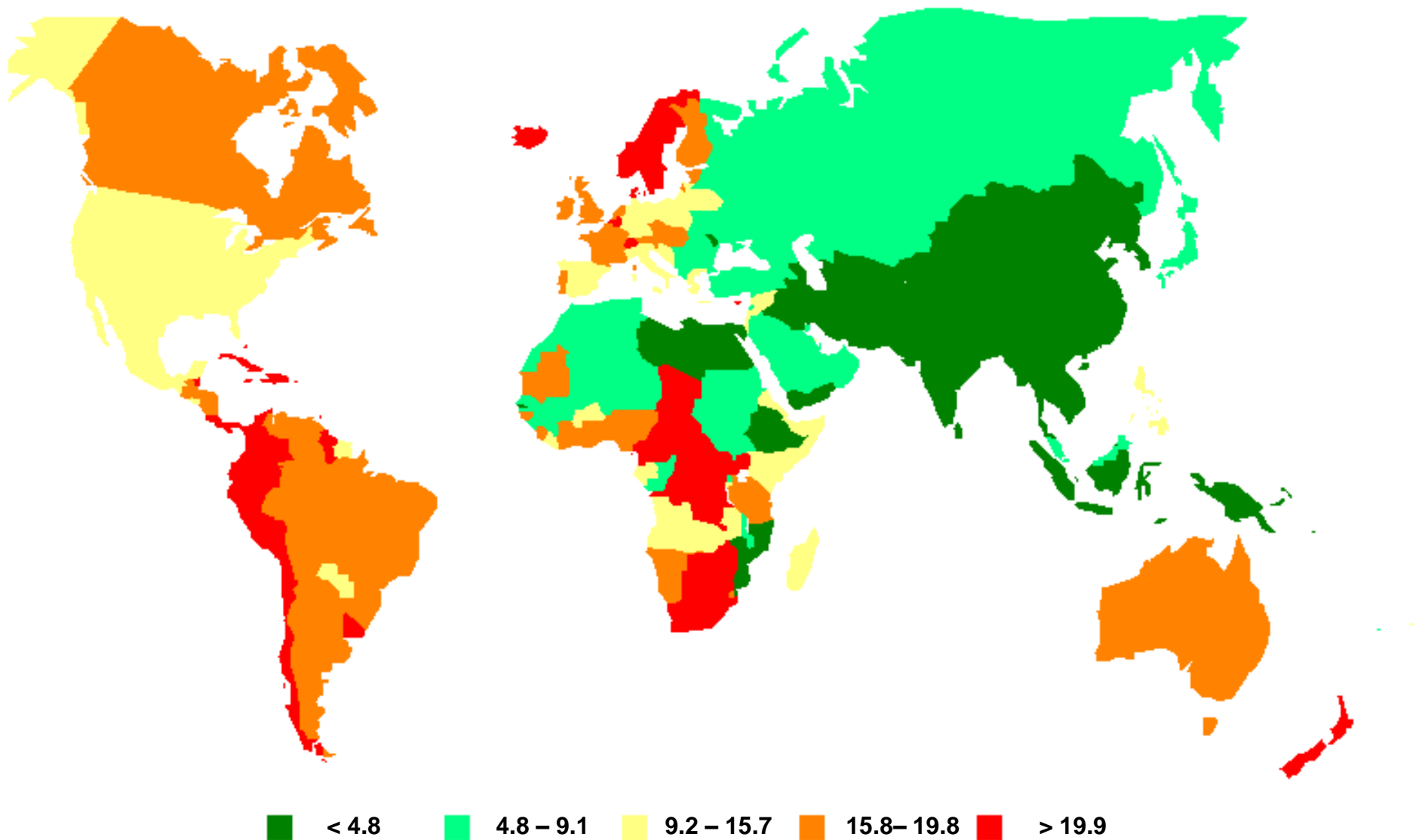
# Prostate Cancer Age-standardized Incidence, World Population, 2002



GLOBOCAN 2002

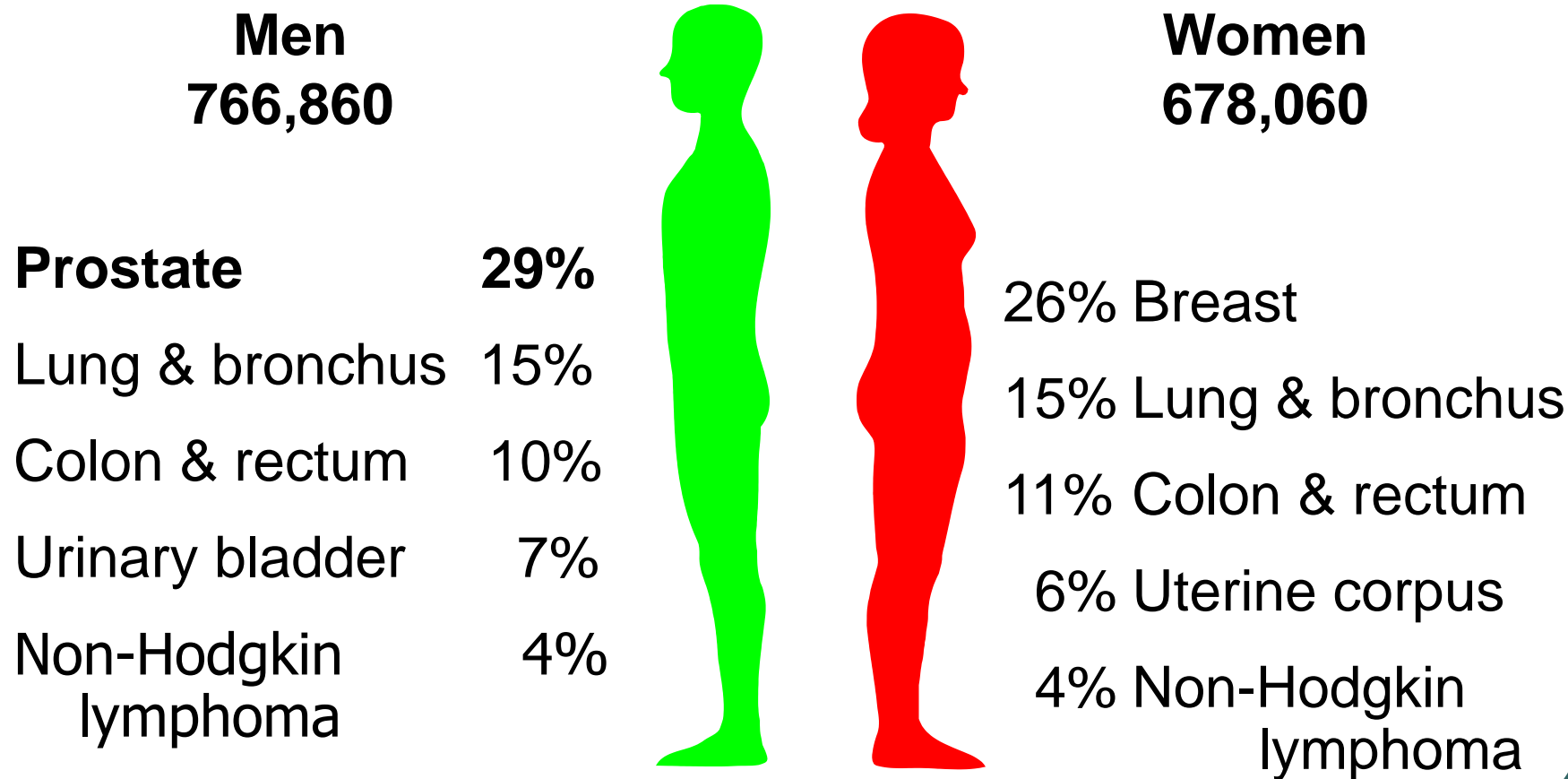


Prostate  
Age-Standardized mortality rate per 100,000



GLOBOCAN 2002, IARC

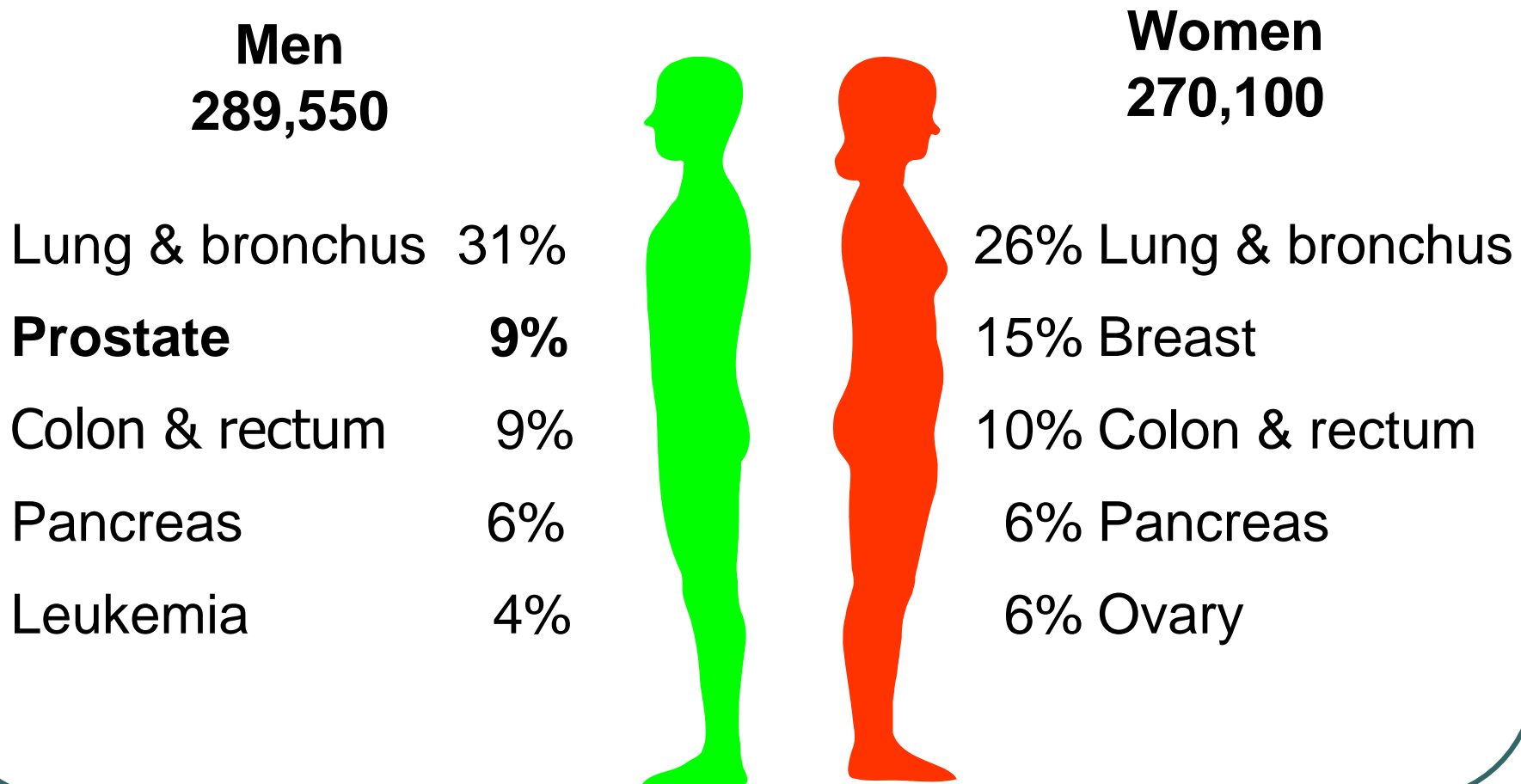
# 2007 Estimated US Cancer Cases\*



\*Excludes basal and squamous cell skin cancers and in situ carcinomas except urinary bladder.

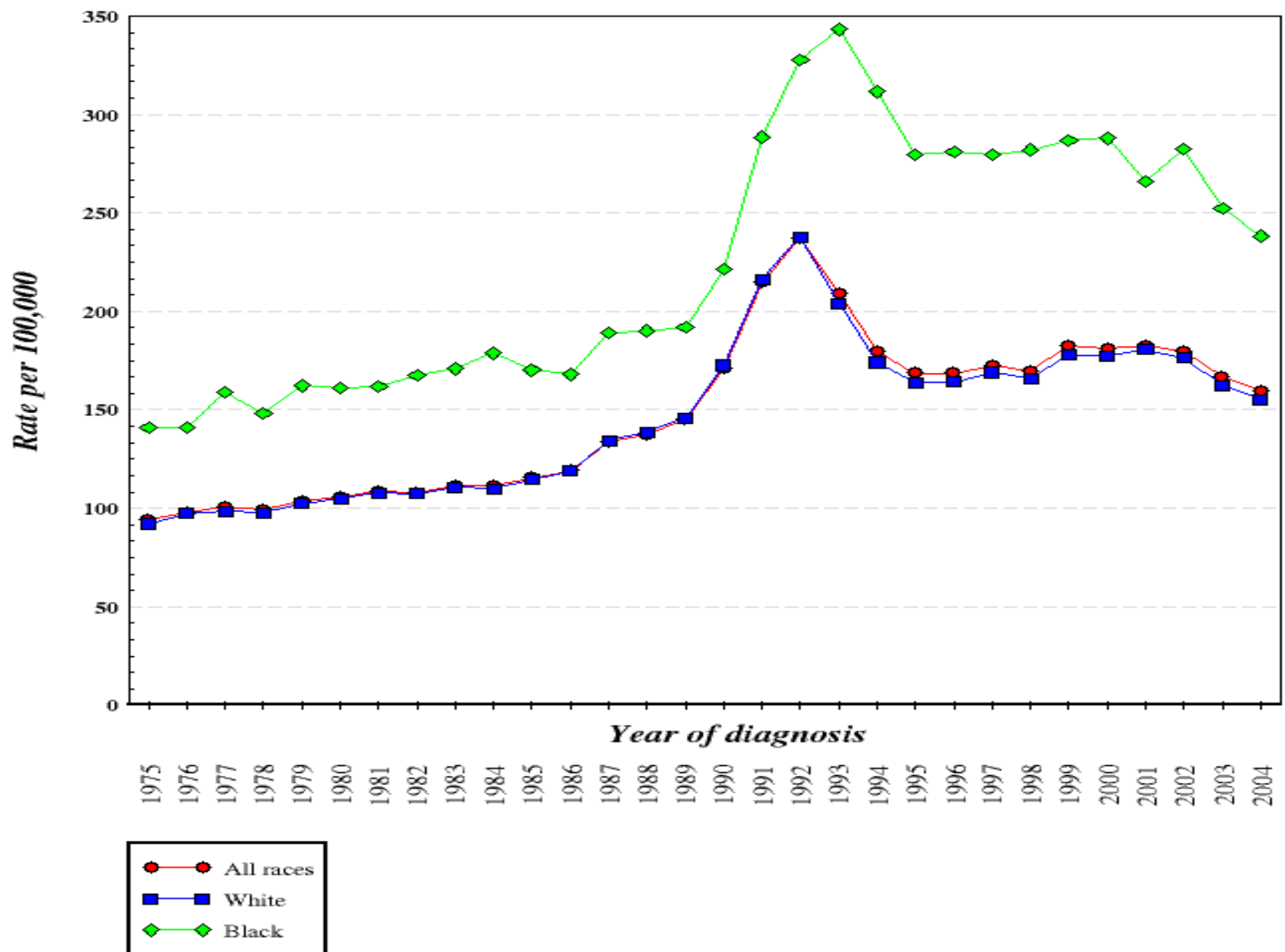
ACS, 2007

# 2007 Estimated US Cancer Deaths\*

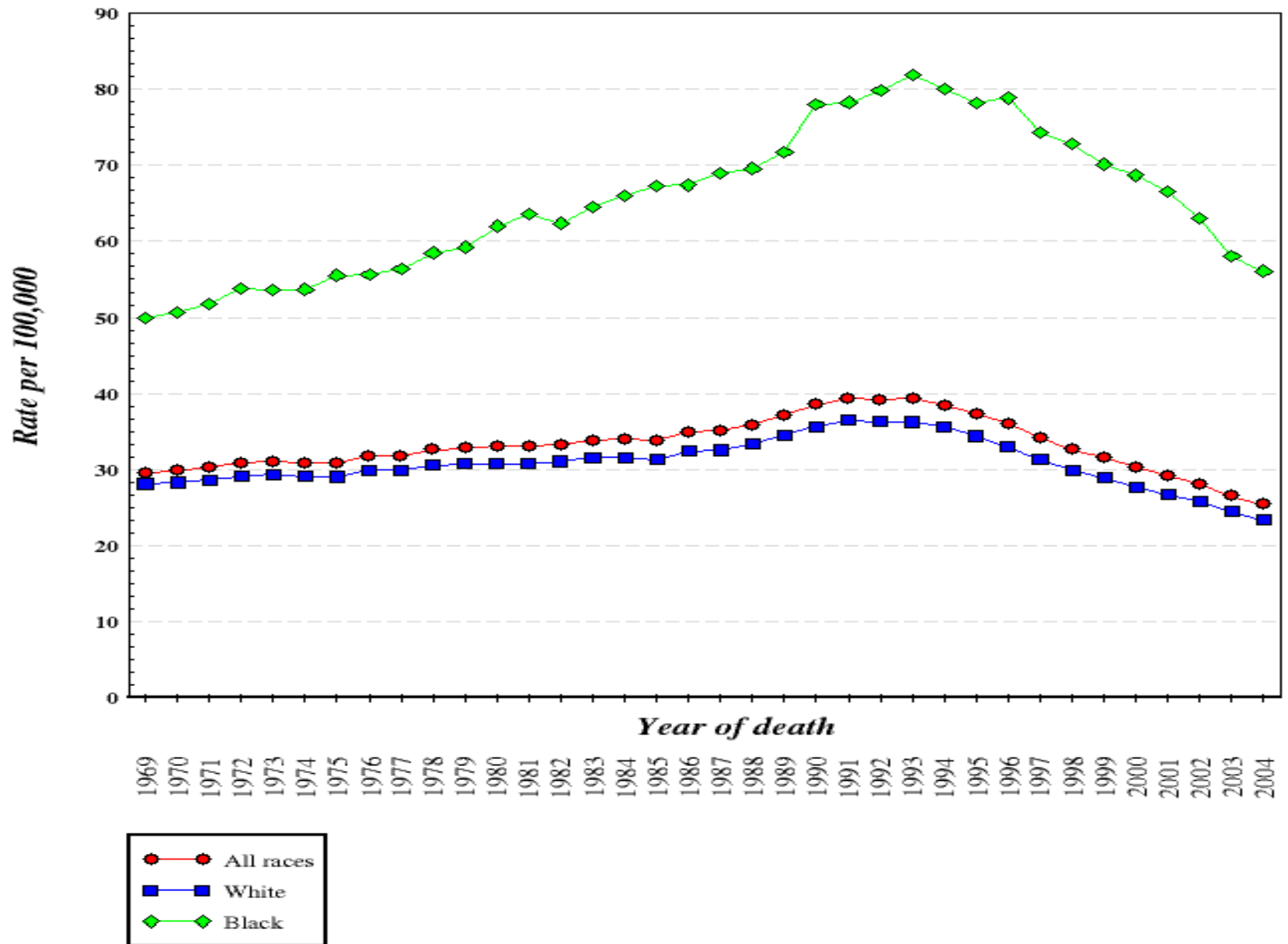


\*Excludes basal and squamous cell skin cancers and in situ carcinomas except urinary bladder. ACS, 2007

# Prostate Cancer Incidence rates in the US, 1975-2004, SEER 9 data

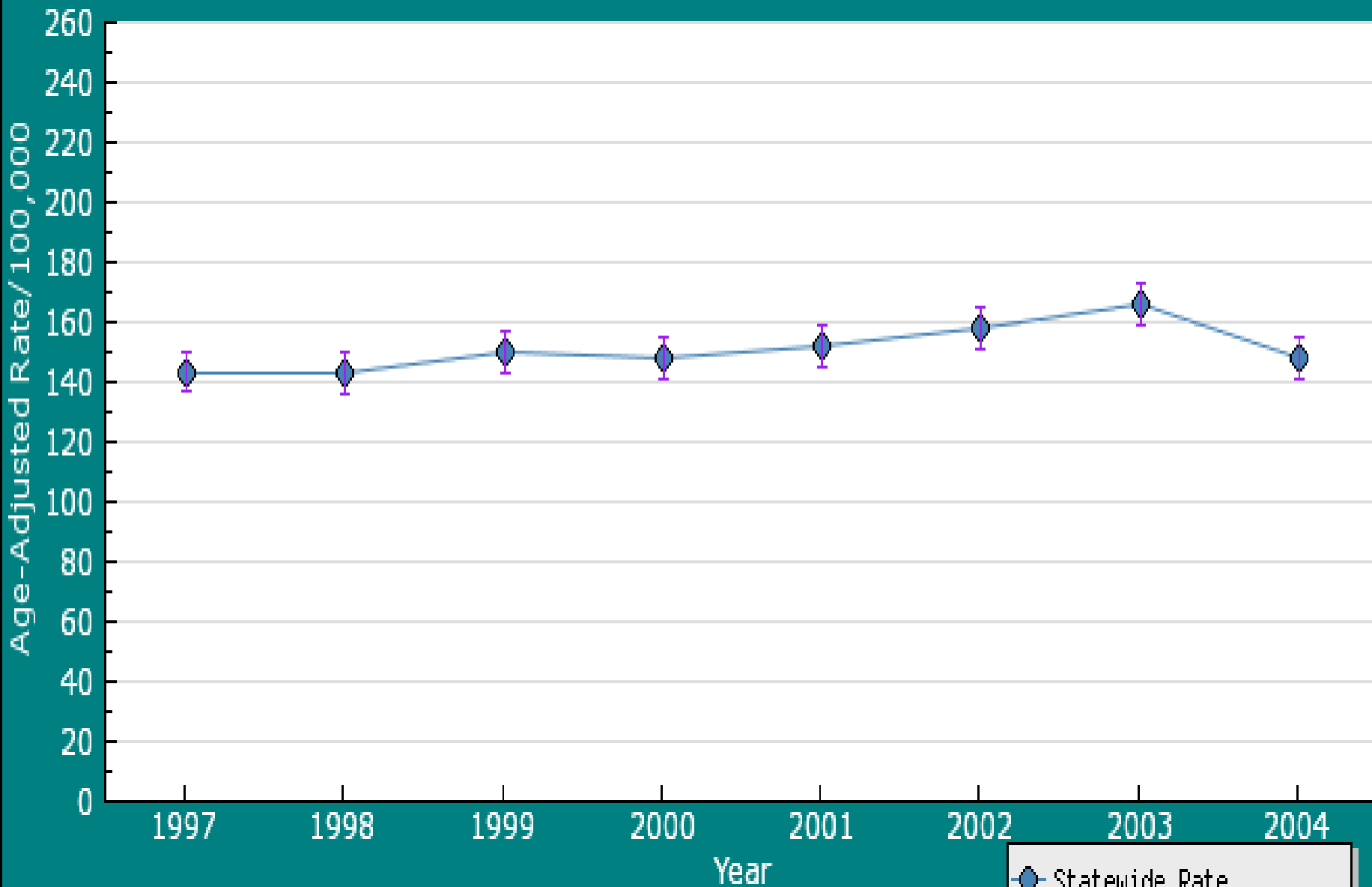


## Prostate Cancer Mortality rates in the US, 1969-2004,



# Invasive Cancer Incidence Rates in Arkansas

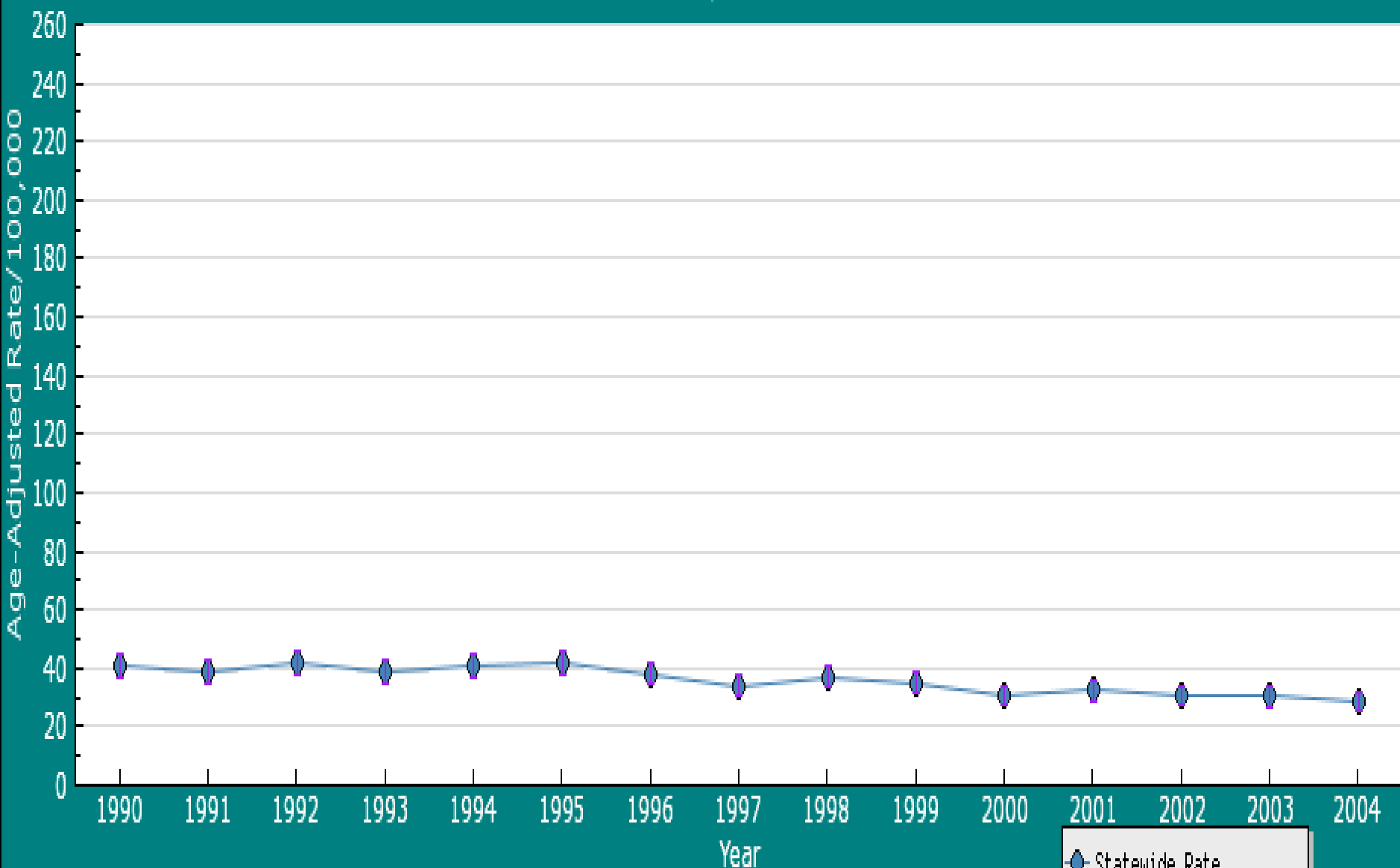
## Prostate, 1997-2004



Age-Adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Standard Million Population

# Cancer Mortality Rates in Arkansas

Prostate, 1990-2004

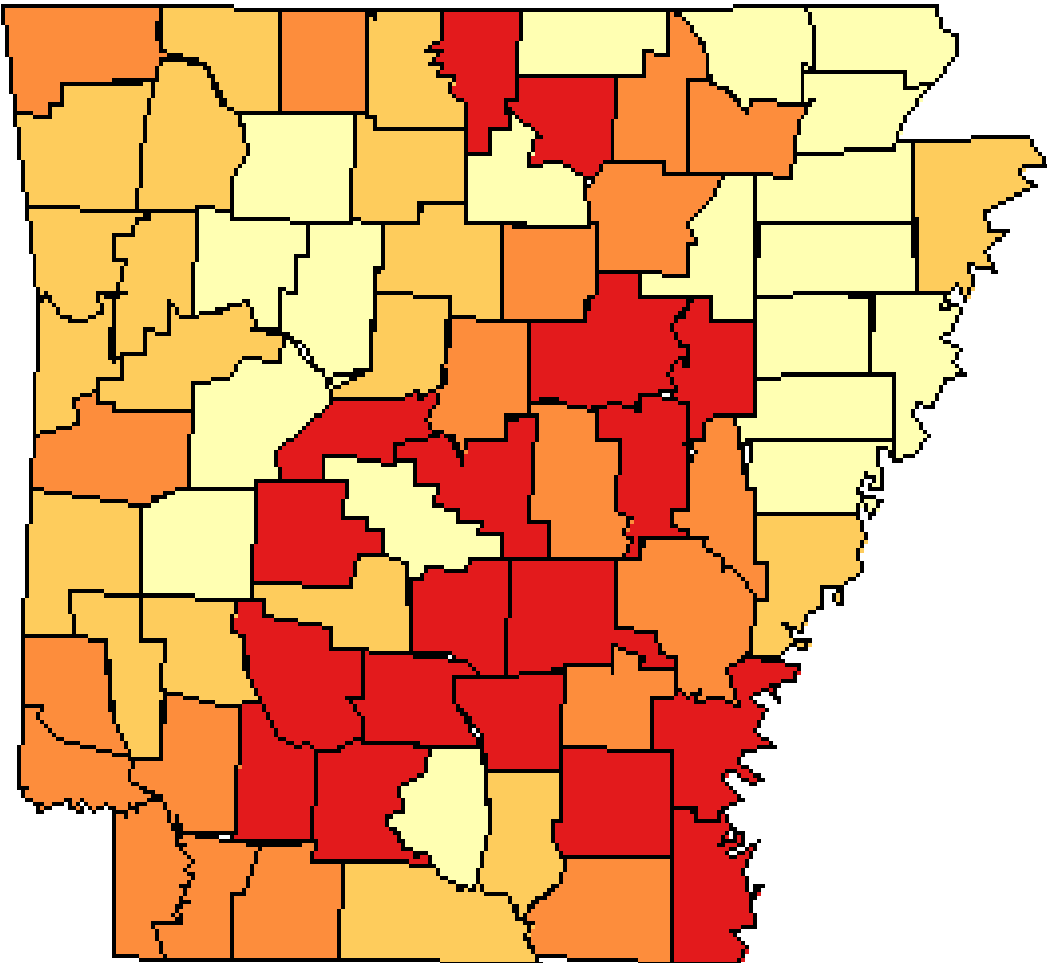
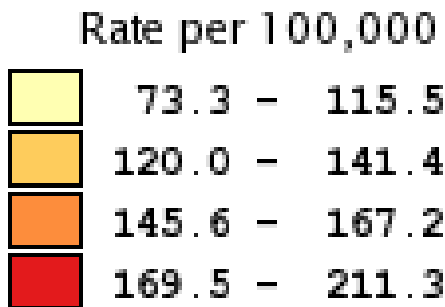


Statewide Rate  
95% Confidence Interval

Age-Adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Standard Million Population

**Age-Adjusted Invasive Cancer Incidence Rates by County in Arkansas**  
**Prostate, 1997-2004**

Total Male Population 1997-2004  
Age-Adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Standard Million Population

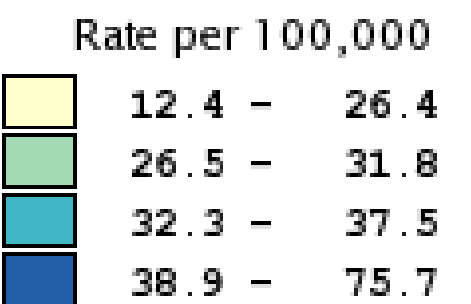




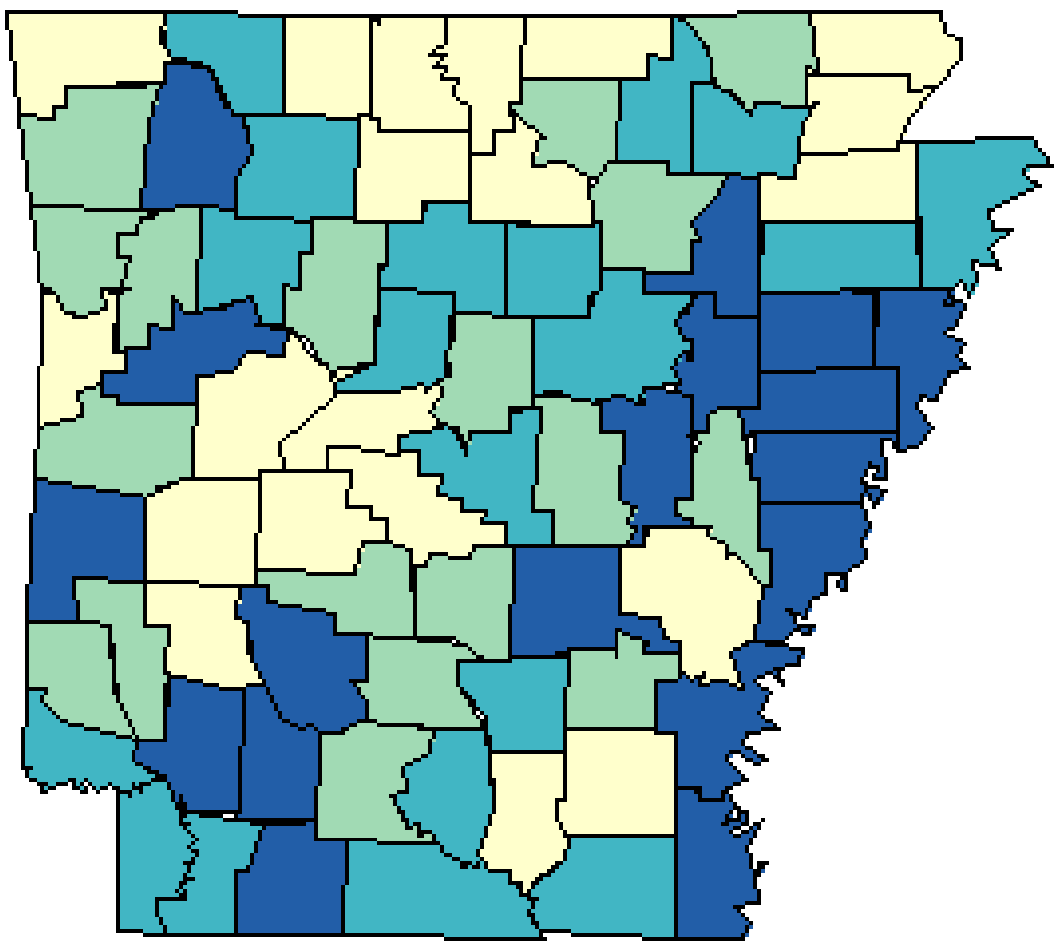
# Age-Adjusted Cancer Mortality Rates by County in Arkansas

## Prostate, 1999-2004

Total Male Population 1999-2004  
Age-Adjusted to the 2000 U.S. Standard Million Population



WARNING: Unstable Rates



# Screening

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- **PSA levels and DRE**
- **Free PSA**
- **PSA Velocity**

# Screening

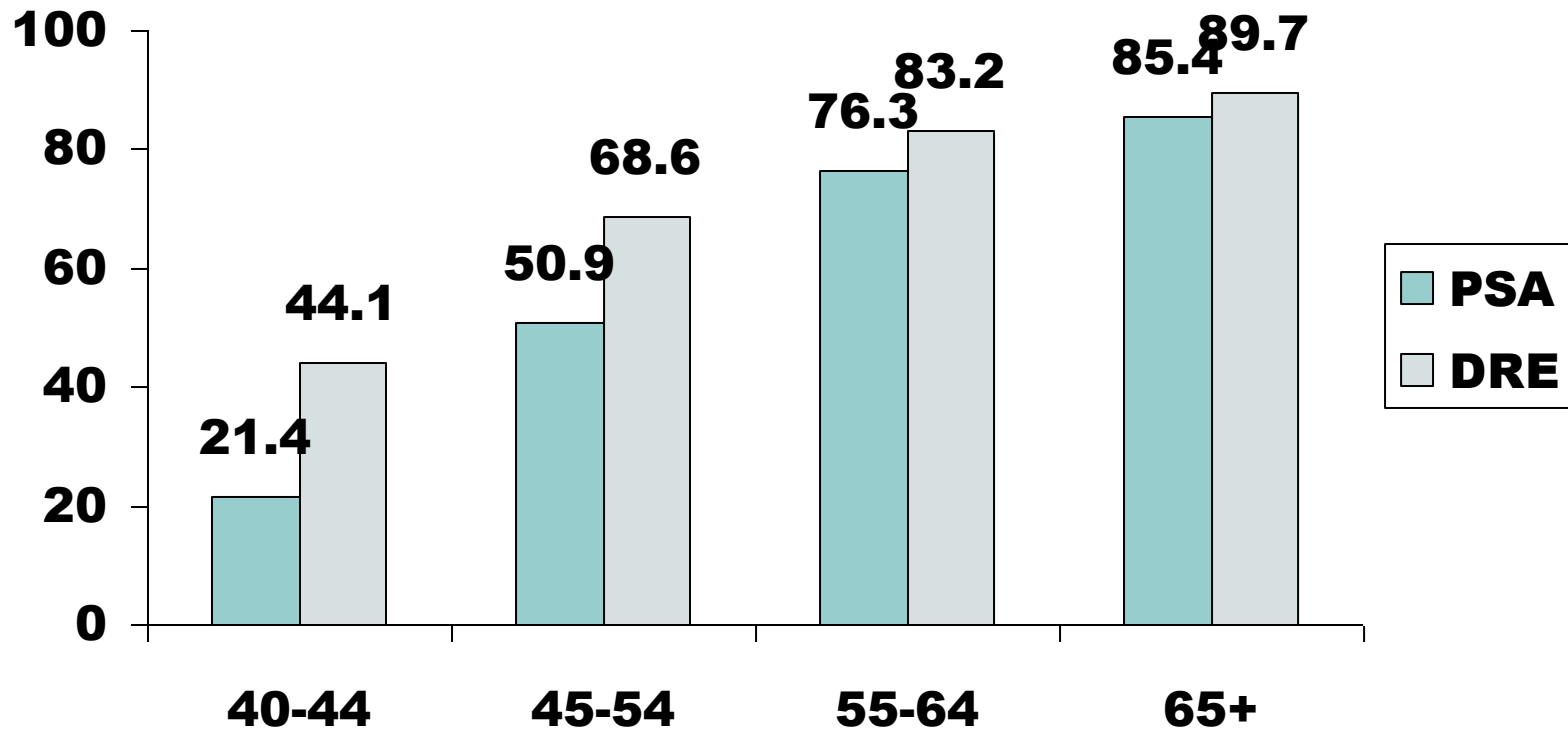
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- AUA recommendation:
  - Annual PSA, DRE Caucasian > 50 y.o.
  - Annual PSA Blacks > 40 OR men w/+ FH
- ACS:

Annual tests men > 50 y.o. IF 10 years of life expected (earlier Black men, + FH)
- American College of Preventive Medicine:
  - Recommends against routine screening tests (PSA/DRE)
  - Men over 50 w/10 years life should be told about benefits & harms of screening

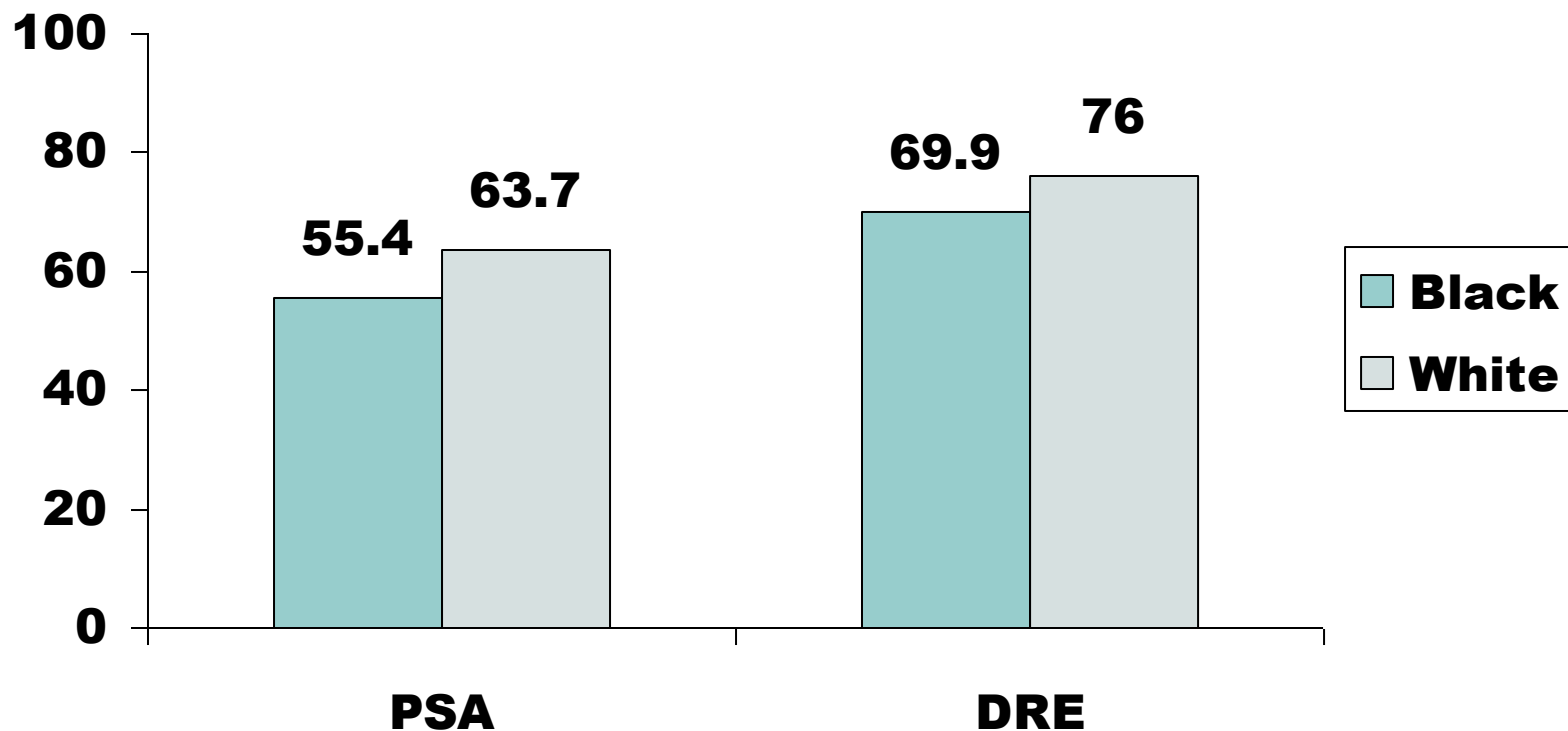
# Prostate Cancer screening in Arkansas, BRFSS 2006

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# Prostate Cancer screening in Arkansas, BRFSS 2006

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# Diagnosis

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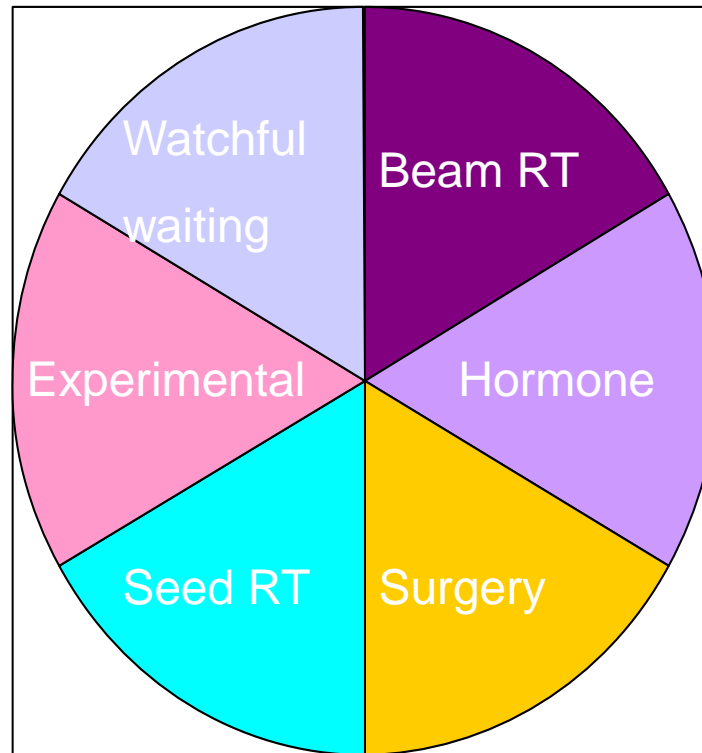
- **Transrectal ultrasound**
- **Cystoscopy**
- **Transrectal biopsy**

# Treatment

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## Based on:

- Age
- Life expectancy
- Overall health status
- Growth and spread of tumor



# Key Issues of Screening and Early Treatment

- ☐ Does screening extend men's lives (are there benefits)?
- ☐ Does screening lead to health problems (are there harms)?
- ☐ Do the benefits outweigh the harms?

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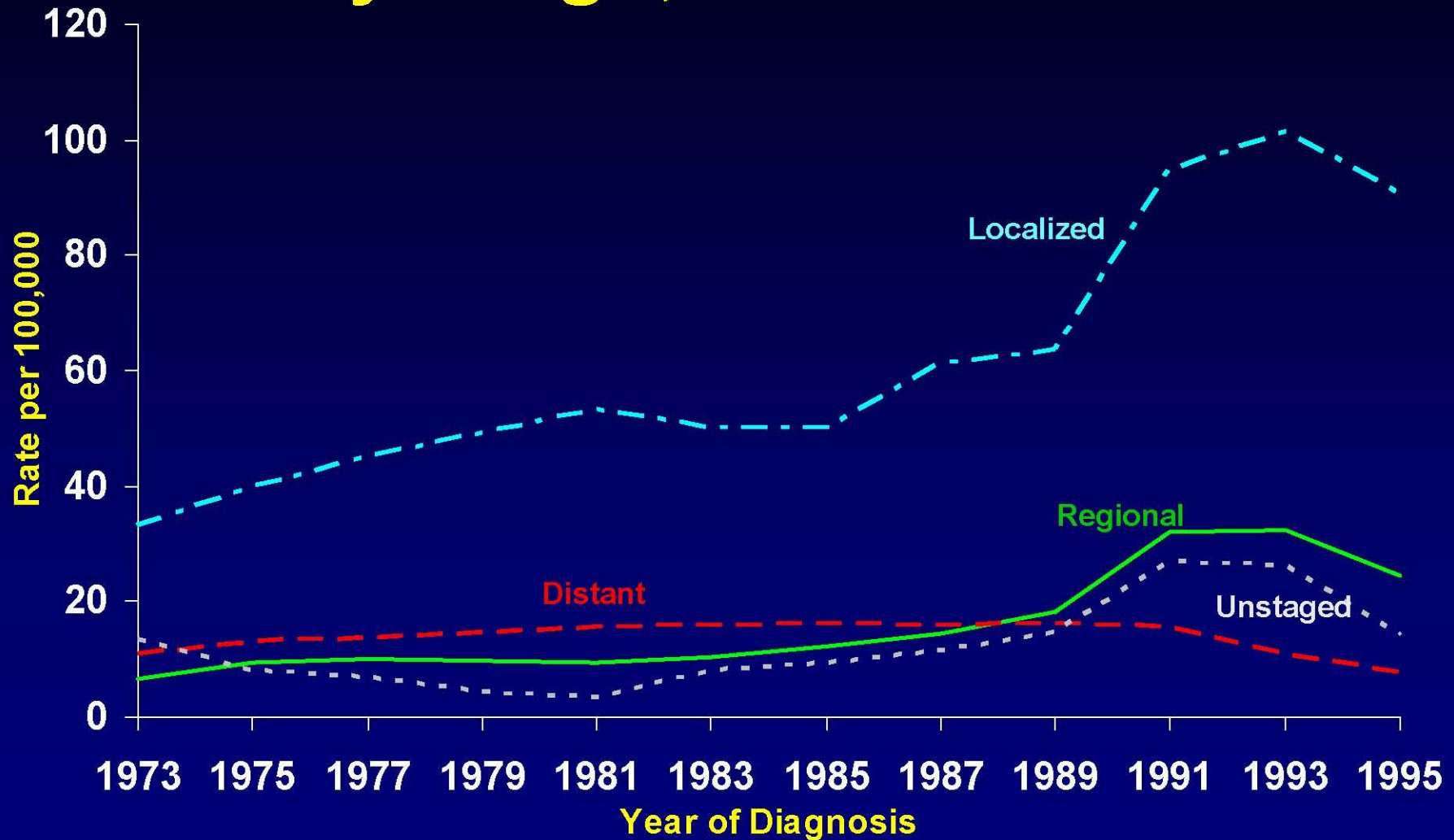


# What Are the Potential Benefits of Screening?

Three issues to consider:

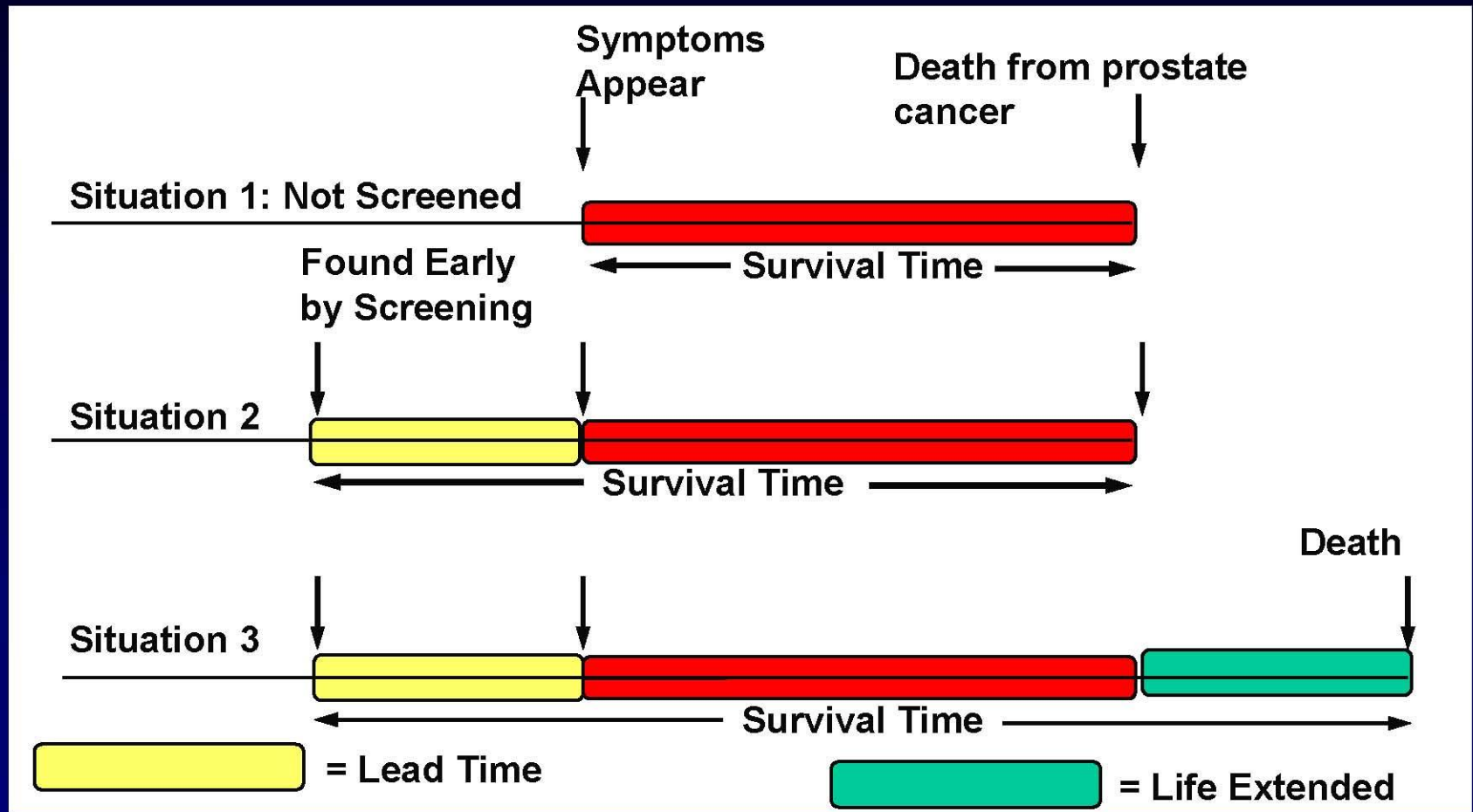
- ☐ Does PSA testing lead to earlier detection?
- ☐ Does earlier treatment help men live longer?
- ☐ What happens to mortality rates as screening rates increase?

# Prostate Cancer Incidence Rates by Stage, 1973–1995



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# Finding Prostate Cancer Earlier Is Not Enough



# Can We Treat Early Stage Prostate Cancer effectively?

*Table 1. Ten-year cancer-specific survival (with 95% confidence intervals) for men with prostate cancer reported to the US SEER program, by degree of differentiation of tumor and treatment administered (intention to treat analysis).<sup>a</sup>*

| Ten-year cancer-tumor differentiation | Specific survival |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Well                                  |                   |
| Prostatectomy                         | 94% (91%–95%)     |
| Radiation                             | 90% (87%–92%)     |
| Conservative                          | 93% (91%–94%)     |
| Moderate                              |                   |
| Prostatectomy                         | 87% (85%–89%)     |
| Radiation                             | 76% (72%–79%)     |
| Conservative                          | 77% (74%–80%)     |
| Poor                                  |                   |
| Prostatectomy                         | 67% (62%–71%)     |
| Radiation                             | 53% (47%–58%)     |
| Conservative                          | 45% (40%–51%)     |

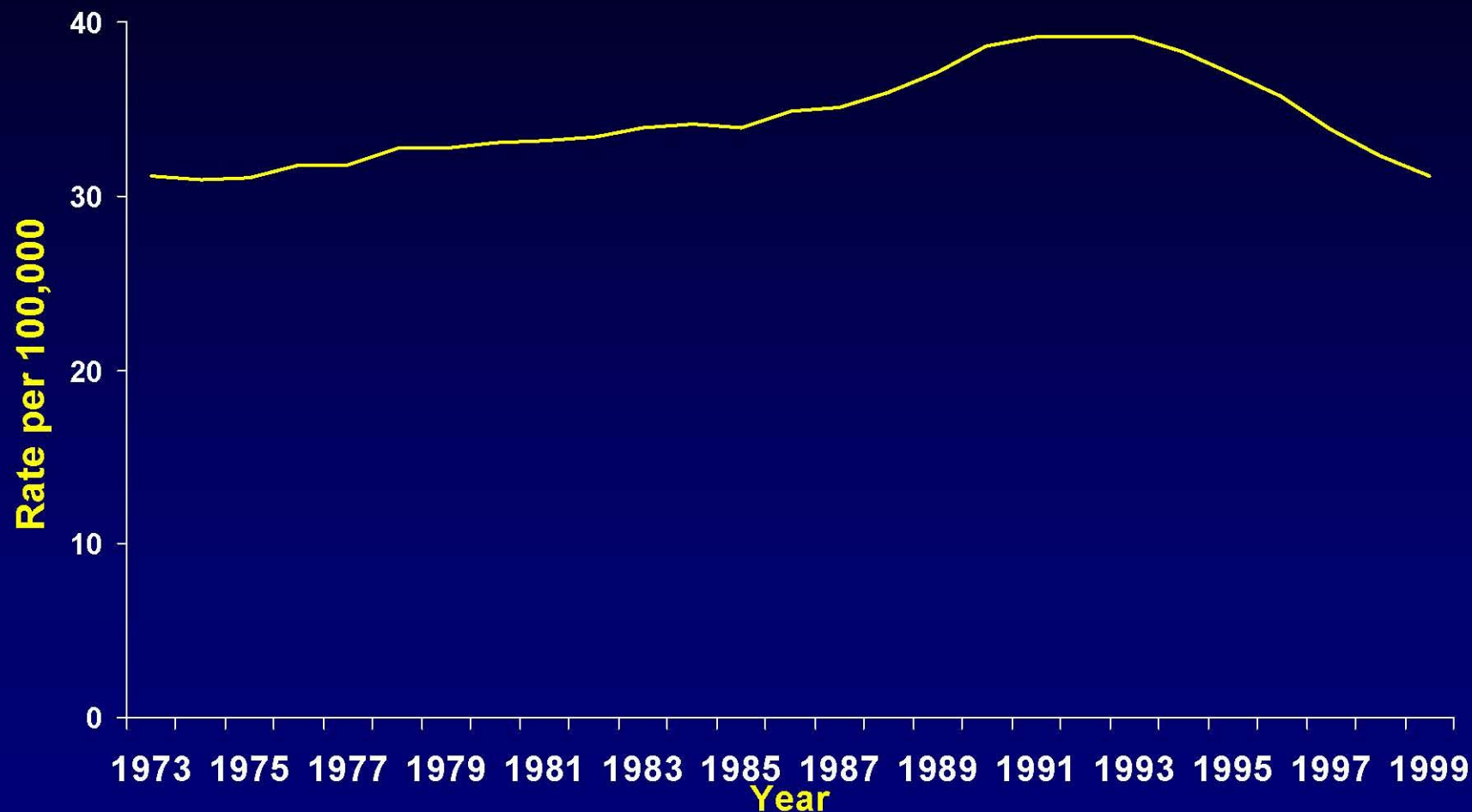
<sup>a</sup> *Source:* Lu-Yao GL, Yao SL. Population-based study of long-term survival in patients with clinically localised prostate cancer *Lancet* 1997; 349: 906–10 (used with permission), © The Lancet Ltd.



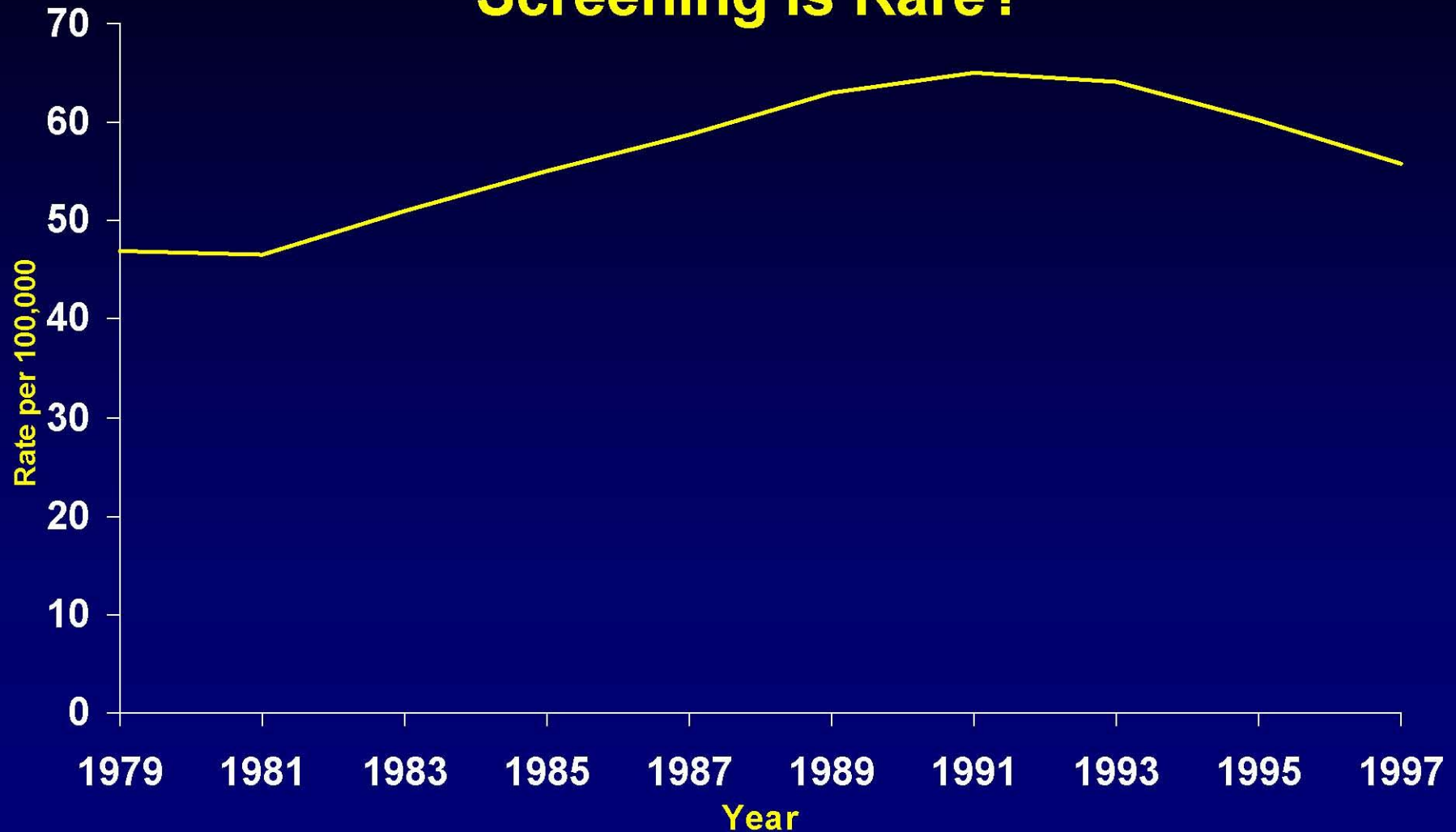
# Can We Treat Early-Stage Prostate Cancer Effectively?

- ❑ After treatment for early-stage prostate cancer, men have excellent survival.
- ❑ Men with early-stage prostate cancer who choose watchful waiting also have excellent survival.
  - A study of 800 men who chose watchful waiting found the 10-year disease-specific survival to be 87%.

# What Happened to U.S. Prostate Cancer Mortality Rates as Screening Rates Increased?

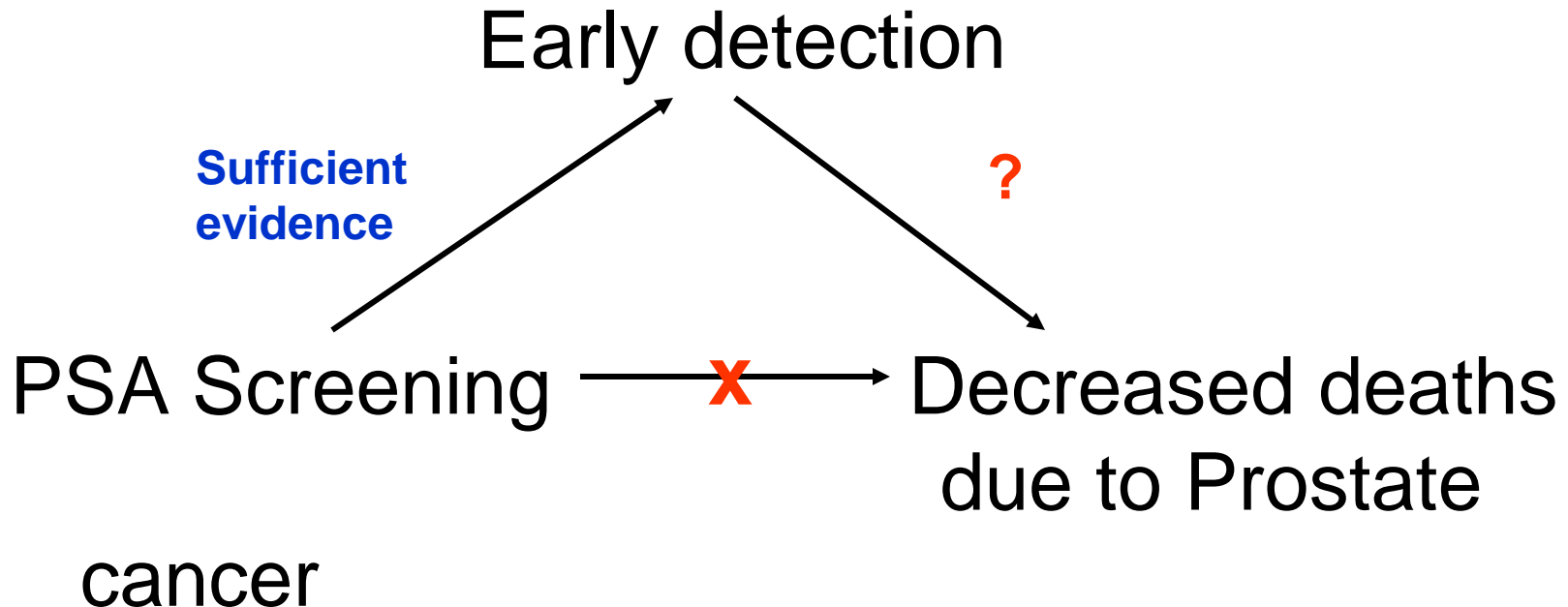


# What Happens to Prostate Cancer Mortality Rates in the U.K., where PSA Screening Is Rare?



# Do We Extend Men's Lives by Screening for Prostate Cancer?

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# Are There Harms From Screening and Early Treatment?

Three issues to consider:

- ☐ False-positive screening tests.
- ☐ Overdiagnosis (men who do not benefit from diagnosis).
- ☐ Side effects of treatment.

# Harms: False Positives

Of 100 unscreened men in each group

| Age<br>(in years) | # With<br>PSA >4.0 | # With<br>Cancer | # False<br>Positives |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 50s               | 5                  | 1–2              | 3–4                  |
| 60s               | 15                 | 3–5              | 10–12                |
| 70s               | 27                 | 9                | 18                   |

# Overdiagnosis

- ❑ Detection by screening of cancers that would never have become clinically apparent.
- ❑ Detection of cancers in patients whose lives are not extended by screening and treatment.
- ❑ Overdiagnosis leads to unnecessary treatments and their side effects.

# Side Effects of Treatment

| Treatment                       | Side Effect   | Frequency        |
|---------------------------------|---|------------------|
| Radical prostatectomy           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Erectile dysfunction</li><li>• Urinary incontinence</li></ul> | 20–70%<br>15–50% |
| External beam radiation therapy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Erectile dysfunction</li><li>• Urinary incontinence</li></ul> | 20–45%<br>2–16%  |
| Androgen deprivation therapy    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sexual dysfunction</li><li>• Hot flashes</li></ul>            | 20–70%<br>50–60% |
| Watchful waiting                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Erectile dysfunction</li></ul>                                | 30%              |





- PSA screening detects cancers earlier.
- Treating PSA-detected cancers may be effective but we are uncertain.
- PSA may contribute to the declining death rate but we are uncertain.
- False positives are common.
- Overdiagnosis is a problem but we are uncertain about the magnitude.
- Treatment-related side effects are fairly common.

**Bottom line: Uncertainty about benefits and magnitude of harms**

# Shared Decision Making

**Shared decision making means:**

- ☐ **Encouraging a patient to participate in the decision.**
- ☐ **Helping a patient consider how the evidence fits his values and preferences.**

# Shared Decision Making for Other Clinical Decisions

- ☐ Sigmoidoscopy, colonoscopy, or fecal occult blood test for colorectal cancer screening.
- ☐ Metformin and/or lifestyle changes for glucose intolerance.
- ☐ Treatments for ischemic heart disease.
- ☐ Hormone replacement therapies.

# **Shared Decision Making**

- ❑ Shared decision making is the best current answer because:**
  - There is evidence that screening may extend men's lives, but the evidence is not conclusive.**
  - Some men suffer harms from screening.**
  - How men weigh potential harms and benefits depends on the individual.**
- ❑ Our challenge:**
  - To find ways to help men make their own decisions.**



# **Cost-benefit of PSA screening**

A review of existing studies

# **Cost-benefit of Screening for Prostate Cancer among Medicare beneficiaries.**

**- Barry et al, Urology 1995**

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- An estimated \$ 2203 per prostate cancer detected at 60-69 years of age
  - Optimistic estimates of treatment benefits (cost per life-year saved):
    - \$ 14,200 at age 65
    - \$ 25,289 at age 70
    - \$ 51,267 at age 75
- ( Compare with Annual fecal occult blood testing (\$35,054) & Mammography (\$23,212 - \$27,983) )

# **Cost-benefit of Screening for Prostate Cancer among Medicare beneficiaries.**

**- Barry et al, Urology 1995**

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- Pessimistic estimates of treatment benefits (cost per life-year saved):
  - \$ 42,590 at age 65 years
  - \$ 177,094 at age 75 years
- Based on existing literature, there is a lack of evidence on cost-benefits of routine PSA screening

# **Screening “High-Risk” groups**

What do we know?

# Targeted screening

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- Men 50-69 years of age are more likely to benefit at a reasonable cost.
  - Coley et al. Ann. of Int. Med. 1997
- Paucity of evidence for screening AA men and men with first-degree relatives.
- Screening high-risk groups – improves positive predictive value

# **Premature deaths due to Prostate Cancer: The Role of Diagnosis and Treatment**

**Appathurai Balamurugan MD, MPH**

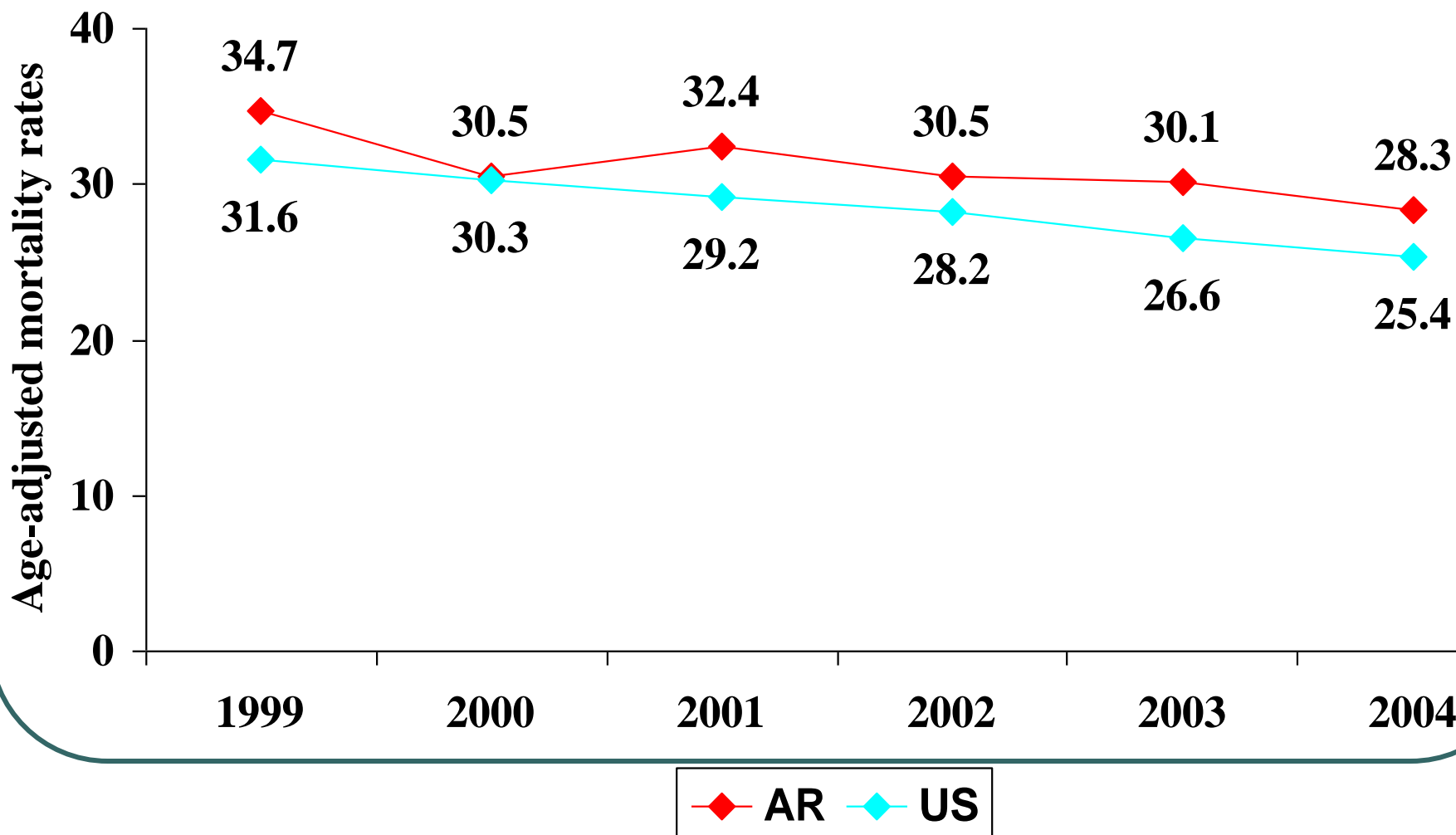
**S William Ross MD**

**Chris Fisher, BS**

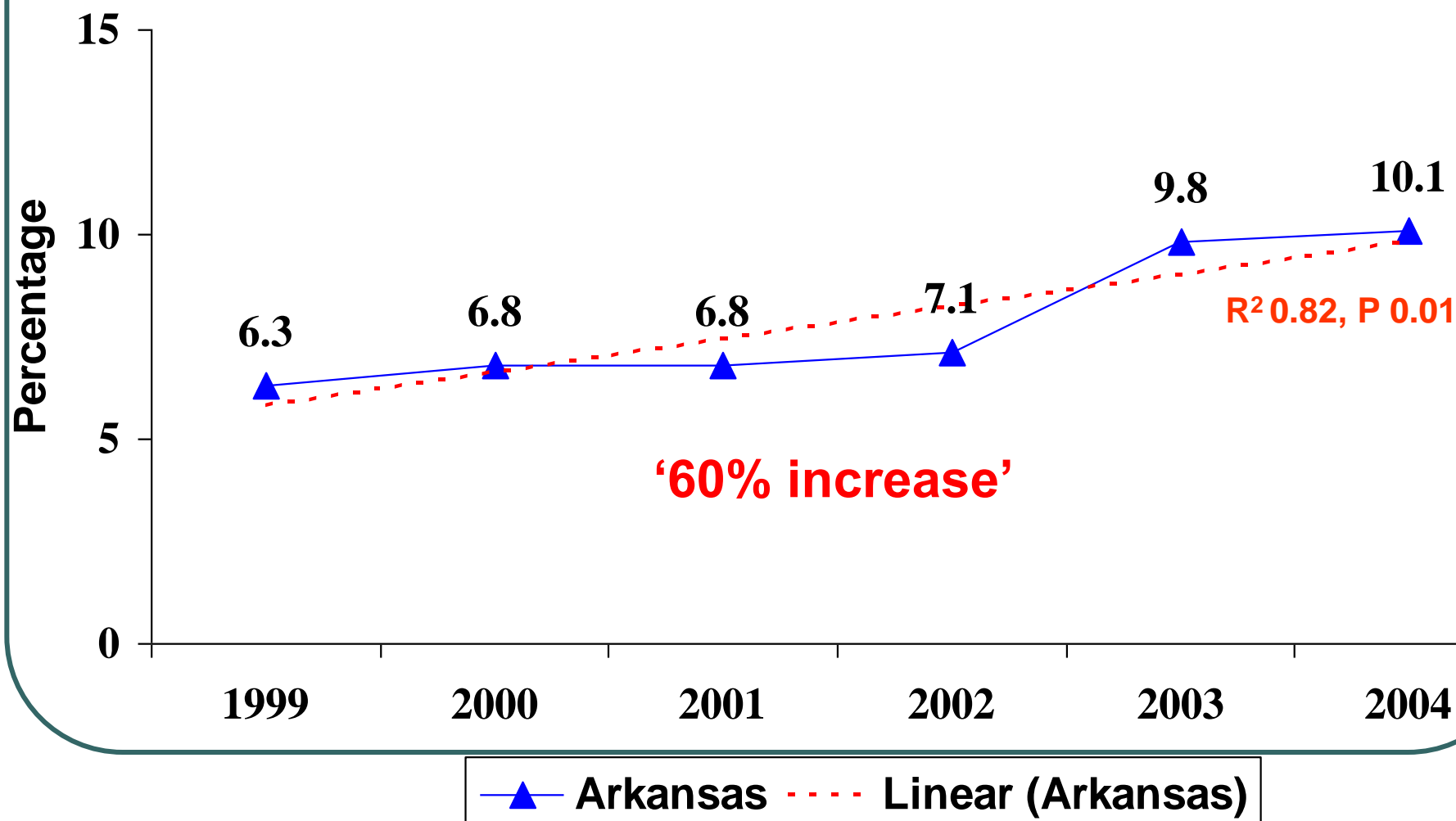
**Jim Files, BS**

**Arkansas Central Cancer Registry**

# Figure 1. Prostate cancer deaths in Arkansas and in US



**Figure 2. Deaths due to Prostate cancer among adults < 65 years of age, in Arkansas**





## **Premature deaths & YPLL**

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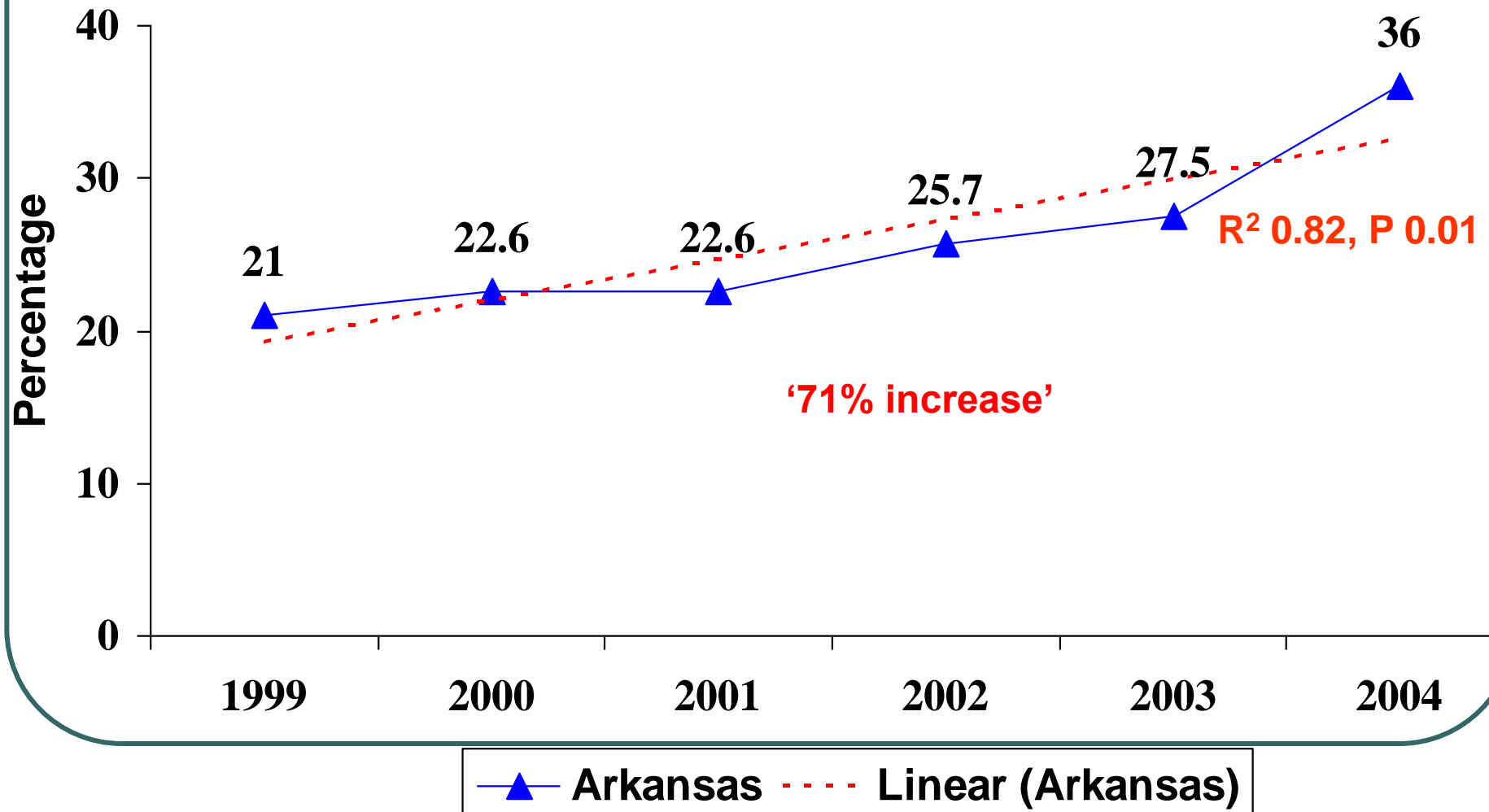
- Deaths among adults younger than 65 years of age (working-age adults) is defined as 'Premature deaths'.
- Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL) is the measure used to assess the impact of premature deaths.

## **More Premature deaths can be due to:**

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- More new cases of prostate cancers < 65 years of age
- Can it be explained by any other reason?

**Figure 3. New cases of Prostate cancer among adults < 65 years of age in Arkansas**



## Implications

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- Studies have found that men diagnosed with prostate cancer in 50s were more likely (60%) to die prematurely.
- Identifying their characteristics and fostering early diagnosis and appropriate treatment could prevent the premature deaths due to prostate cancer.

# Objectives of our formative study

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- To study the demographic and disease-specific characteristics of adults younger than 65 years of age, who died during the period 1999-2004 due to prostate cancer

## Methods

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- Calculate YPLL for premature deaths due to Prostate cancer
- We linked the death records of adults who died due to prostate cancer during the period 1999-2004 to the incidence data collected at the Arkansas Central Cancer Registry.
- Compare the characteristics of those died due to prostate cancer < 65 years of age to those died due to prostate cancer 65 years and older

# Methods

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- Univariate Analysis
- Bivariate Analysis – Chi-square
- Multivariate Logistic regression model
  - Backward elimination and Stepwise regression

## List of variables used in the model

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- *Dependent variable* - Deaths due to prostate cancer
- *Independent Variables* - Age at diagnosis, Race, Family History, SEER Summary stage, Histology, Treatment



## **Results**

### **Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL)**

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- Number of deaths due to prostate cancer <65 years in Arkansas (99-04) = 108
- Range = 43-64 years of age
- YPLL = 661 (Sum of  $(64.5 - X)$  (decedent's age in years))
- YPLL rate per 100,000 people per year = 9.5

## Results summarized

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- 11.4 % (N=108) of people who died due to prostate cancer, died prematurely.
- Findings from unadjusted bivariate analysis showed that:  
Significantly higher proportion of those
  - Diagnosed in the 40-59 age group ( $p=0.000$ ),
  - With family history ( $p=0.031$ ),
  - With a regional or distant metastases ( $p=0.000$ ), and
  - Who received 2 or 3 forms of treatment ( $p=0.007$ )were likely to have died prematurely.
- There were no significant differences by race or histology.

## Results contd.

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- After adjusting for the covariates in the multivariate model:
  - Those diagnose 60 years and older were less likely to die prematurely (OR=0.002, 95% CI 0.001, 0.008).
  - Those with a distant metastases at diagnosis were more likely to die prematurely (OR=3.990, 95% CI 1.659, 9.595)
  - Race or histology was not found to be significant.

# Limitations

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- 46% case ascertainment rate (951/2063)
- Selection bias
- Missing data – Screening results, family history

## Conclusions

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- In spite of the limitations, our formative study provides some insight for future research
- Epidemiologic profiling of those who die prematurely due to prostate cancer will assist fostering preventive measures and avert deaths.

## **Signs of Hope..**

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- Screening - PSA Velocity
- Treatment – Research funding
- Prevention - Provenge

# Synopsis of Men's Health

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- Routine PSA screening – evidence insufficient
- Targeted screening – promises on the horizon
- At the least, Men need to be educated about the risk factors of prostate cancer, risks and benefits of screening and treatment.
- Promote shared decision making process among Physicians on prostate cancer which kills 1 Arkansan every day!

## **Myth**

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**A cat has nine lives..**